

With her genesis in the eastern Carolines (Figure 4-8), Phyllis passed 30 nm northeast of Ponape on a northwesterly heading, strengthening to tropical storm force on 6 July. During the next 72 hours, Phyllis slowly intensified, reaching typhoon force on the 9th. She then stalled and drifted northward, 500 miles east of the Marianas (Figure 4-9), as the subtropical ridge receded to the north producing a weak steering current.

By the 11th the subtropical ridge began to rebuild, causing Phyllis to accelerate and shift to a northwesterly track. Reconnaissance aircraft reported a central pressure of 944 mb and 110-kt surface winds on the afternoon of the 11th as Phyllis reached her maximum intensity.

Located in the convergent flow between a strengthening ridge to the northeast and the circulation of Typhoon Rita to the west, Phyllis accelerated to 20 kt. She passed 40 nm southeast of Chichi Jima on the morning of the 14th with a recorded

minimum sea level pressure of 994.7 mb $(14/2100~\mbox{GMT})$.

As Phyllis approached Japan, a midtropospheric low developed in a stationary trough over the Sea of Japan. Phyllis assumed a more northerly track when she was approximately 300 nm south of Tokyo late on the 14th. She struck the coastline just east of Ise Bay. A minimum pressure of 985.5 mb was recorded at Irako (15/1010 GMT). Maximum sustained winds reported during landfall were 57 kt with gusts to 71 kt at Irozaki. Phyllis then weakened and accelerated toward central Honshu where she merged with a low-pressure system, becoming extratropical late on the 15th.

Inland, Phyllis caused heavy rains in the Kanto, Chubu, and Kinki regions resulting in flooded streams and over 300 landslides. Rainfall of 14.9 in. was recorded at Oshima in the mountainous terrain of the Chubu region. Three deaths were attributed to Phyllis and over 6,600 homes and 1,600 hectares of land were flooded.

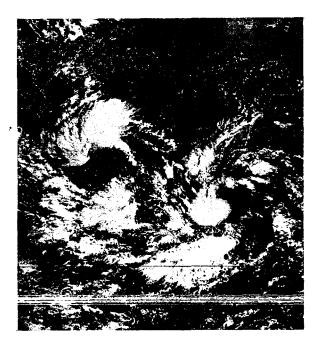


FIGURE 4-8. Formative stages of Rita (left) south of the Marianas and Phyllis (right) in the eastern Carolines, 5 July 1972, 2149 GMT (DAPP data).

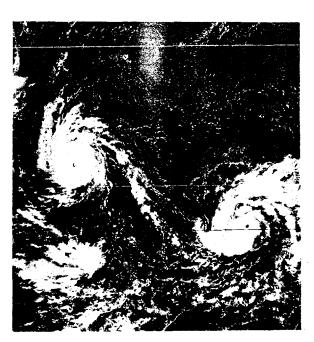


FIGURE 4-9. Typhoon Phyllis (right)
quasi-stationary east of the
Marianas and Super Typhoon
Rita (left) in the Philippine
Sea, 10 July 1972, 0229 GMT
(DAPP data).